

**TROOPS AT VILLA'S HEELS;
MAY HAVE STRUCK BLOW;
ANTI-ILS FEELING GROWS**

**Col. Dodd's Two Columns
Well South of Casas
Grandes**

MEXICAN LEADER IS

**Has Divided His Forces in
Small Bands to**

Escape.

**NEWS GIVEN OUT AT
ARMY HEADQUARTERS**

**Pershing's Army Within
Striking Distance of**

Advance Guard.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 18.—A blow at the Villistas by American cavalry is expected at any moment, or may have already been struck, was the report given out this evening at army headquarters here.

Col. Dodd's two columns were at Colonia Dublan, at the edge of Casas Grandes, this morning, probably with

Gen. Funston said that the American Consul at Chihuahua reported Villa a

It was stated officially that Col. Dodd's column could have easily

Whether Dodd will wait for the arrival of Gen. Pershing's troops before advancing further into the mountainous strongholds of the Villistas will continue his flying advance, and

But it is believed that if for other reason he will advance at least to Colonia Graña without delay for the protection of the Mormons there. Graña is in the vicinity of Galante. The Mormons in the immediate vicinity of Casas Grandes are considered safe. However, it is understood that Bergman's advance cavalry is practically as far south as Dodge. Information concerning the Seventh and Tenth Cavalries comes over Pershing's

of communication, and it is known they are close enough together to act in concert from a tactical standpoint.

Authoritative information has it that Villa has divided his force into a number of bands ranging from 100 or so to as many as 400. This is for a number of reasons, one being to cover as wide an area as possible to obtain forage and water and to cause possibly a division of American troops for the purpose of following the various raiding bands.

That correspondents are getting information about the American troops in

ness to the accuracy in spite of the enormous amount of work for which Pluta was responsible. He said that the censorship on news regarding troop movements would be made more rigid. He mentioned that there might be a leak in the censorship, and that a better system may be kept on news getting on and he had all the correspondents here register their names and addresses and in papers they represent.

It was rumored at army headquarters that information which had not been given out at headquarters or in the field had been published in certain papers and

Fifteen minutes after a blazing messenger had hurried into the Third Army's headquarters, the command, by high, good humor, received the correspondents.

"Col. Dahl is south of Casas Grande," he said. "There is reason to believe he camped near Casas Grande last night."

Made Record March.

The scout, Gen. Furston said, has made a record march from the border and with his horses' feed had covered more than a fifty miles in the last forty-eight hours.

"Has Col. Dahl any artillery?" he asked.

"That," replied Gen. Furston, "is a

Gen. Phangson said their supplies of picked men had made much of the first on record in the army history.